



NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Request: Public Libraries Survey FY 2021-FY 2023

AGENCY: Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

ACTION: Notice, request for comments on this collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This pre-clearance consultation program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comments concerning the modifications to and continuance of the Public Libraries Survey for Fiscal Years 2021-2023. The Agency is particularly interested in public comments addressing the following issues: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology (*e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses). A copy of the proposed information collection request can

be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before August 21, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: Connie Bodner, Ph.D., Director of Grants Policy and Management, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 955 L'Enfant Plaza North, SW, Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20024-2135. Dr. Bodner can be reached by telephone at 202-653-4636, or by e-mail at cbodner@imls.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing (TTY users) can contact IMLS at 202-207-7858 via 711 for TTY-Based Telecommunications Relay Service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the documents contact: Matthew Birnbaum, Ph.D., Senior Evaluation Officer, Office of Digital and Information Strategy, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 955 L'Enfant Plaza North SW, Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20024-2135. Dr. Birnbaum can be reached by telephone: 202-653-4760, or by email at mbirnbaum@imls.gov. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing (TTY users) can contact IMLS at 202-207-7858 via 711 for TTY-Based Telecommunications Relay Service.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grant making, research, and policy development. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov.

II. Current Actions

Pursuant to Public Law 107-279, this Public Libraries Survey collects annual descriptive data on the universe of public libraries in the United States and the Outlying Areas. Information such as public service hours per year, circulation of library books, number of librarians, population of

legal service area, expenditures for library collection, programs for children and young adults, staff salary data, and access to technology, etc., would be collected. The request includes new public library data regarding programs and other physical collections. The Public Libraries Survey has been conducted by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the clearance number 3137-0074, which expires September 30, 2023. This action is to request a new three-year approval.

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Title: Public Libraries Survey, FY 2021-FY 2023.

OMB Number: 3137-0074.

Agency Number: 3137.

Affected Public: State and local governments, State library administrative agencies, and public libraries.

Number of Respondents: 56.

Frequency: Annually.

Burden Hours per Respondent: 94.1.

Total Burden Hours: 5,270.2.

Total Annual Costs: \$154,104.73.

Total Annual Federal Costs: \$726,187.85.

Public Comments Invited: Comments submitted in response to this Notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Dated: June 22, 2021.

Kim Miller,

Senior Grants Management Specialist, Institute of Museum and Library Services.

[FR Doc. 2021-13616 Filed: 6/24/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/25/2021]